



# Franklin Academy

## NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

### What's In This Month's Issue?

### This Month at the Academy

We are excited to welcome some new students as well as some new staff members. Ms. Camryn, Ms. Mackenzey, and Ms. Alaina have joined us at the Academy. All three new Teachers bring many years of experience and wide variety of talents and different interests and experiences. Please stop in and say hello to our new team members.

Intent forms for next year enrollment are at the end of this newsletter and due March 22nd to lock in this years tuition prices.

### Illnesses

We have had many illnesses going through the Academy, please continue to keep sick children at home to keep everyone healthier. We are sanitizing classrooms each day after school and doing extra cleaning to prevent more passing of germs. Unfortunately, the winter months are always tough, especially with young children being in close contact.

- After School Activities
- No School Winter Break Feb. 19-23
- February is Black History Month.
- 2024-25 Intent Forms are due March 22nd. Forms will be emailed and sent home.
- Summer Camp registration has begun.
- Fun Fact of The Month:
- **The first recorded Black History Month celebration in Grand Rapids, Michigan took place on February 21, 1970, at the rebirth of the Martin Luther King Jr. Club, a community organization that began in 1963.**



### Extended Hours Sign Up



January 29-2



February 5-9



February 12-16

February 19-23 NO SCHOOL



February 26-  
March 1

### Important Reminders



- February 10th Kids Night Out/50% off for Members.
- February 14th is our Valentines celebration. If you would like to send valentines or treats on this day, please address the valentines to "My Friend" and have your child sign their name. Remember all treats must be store bought, and nut free. We will also be providing a pizza lunch for all students that day!
- February 19-23 Winter Break NO SCHOOL but CAMP IS OFFERED.
- February 19-23 School Break Camps. Register Here: WINTER BREAK CAMP or use this QR Code
- Summer Camp Registration opened on January 16th. For any student under the age of three you will have priority registration until February 29th, after that date we will open registration up to the public for this age and we cannot guarantee a spot for your child once that happens.
- Please reach out to our Camp Director Ashley with any questions. [afarr@ffrc.net](mailto:afarr@ffrc.net) To register for children 3 and up please [click here.](#) or use the QR code



# School Break Camp and Summer Camp Information

## School Break Camps

January- May 2024  
No School Dates that camp is offered:  
January 15  
February 19-23  
March 25-29  
Click here to register or use the QR Code:



**ATTENTION**  
These days we have NO SCHOOL but there is no camp offered:  
April 29, May 24, 27, and June 6



## Summer Camp 2024

Summer Camp information and registration links are available. Our Academy Students ages 3 and up do receive a 15% discount on all camp. Our camps for infants ages 12 weeks- 2 year are only available for current students or students that are already enrolled for Fall school Year. We offer an early registration for our students ages 2-3 in our Tiny Tot camps from January 15th - February 29th. After February 29th we do open the registration to the public and the camps fill up fast, if you are planning on using camps this summer then please register early to guarantee your spot. For more information on our camps please reach out to Ms. Ashley at [afarr@ffrc.net](mailto:afarr@ffrc.net)  
To Register click here or use the QR code below



**NUT FREE**  
Don't forget we are a nut free facility so please keep all nuts at home for the safety of our children with allergies.



## Ideas to do with your kids during Black History Month

**READ ALOUD TIME**  
Celebrate Black History Month with family read aloud time. Carve out some time when the entire family is free – maybe in the morning before school or in the evening before bed-time – and take turns reading pages from the chosen picture books. If you need some ideas, we've compiled a list of 8 must-read children's books that celebrate and educate on Black history. You can rotate these Black history kids books into your reading lineup this month and year-round.

**MOVIE NIGHT**  
Films are a wonderful way to introduce difficult topics to your little ones. Red Tricycle has compiled a list of 10 movies perfect that create a learning opportunity for preschoolers to big kids about Black history. From the Oscar nominated Hidden Figures to the elementary-school favorite March On! The Day My Brother Martin Changed the World, these selections educate viewers & provoke important conversation. Some additional favorites from our team include Pride and The Great Debaters.

**WHAT IS DIVERSITY EGG ACTIVITY**  
This ingenious egg activity from Kids Activities introduces the idea of diversity to toddlers in a simple & easy to understand way. All you need are two eggs, one white and one brown, and a plate to crack them on. Discuss their observations about the eggs and what they think is inside of each. Then, simply crack the eggs to demonstrate that they are the same on the inside. You can explore & discuss further based on your child's age and the questions they ask. Here are some additional tips for teaching diversity to your children.

Check out this website for more great ideas and projects.

[RadioFlyer.com](http://RadioFlyer.com)




Franklin Athletic Club has a special offer to all families that are not already members. With summer and camps coming you might want to check out what offers are available. Contact [memberservices@ffrc.net](mailto:memberservices@ffrc.net) and let them know you are an Academy Family

## Drop Off in the Morning

Students may be dropped off as early as 8:50 am if they will not be attending am care. We will have staff door # 2 from 8:50am- 9:15 am to escort children in and to classrooms. You can line up in your car and we will assist you get the children from the cars.

Parents are welcome to walk their children to class in the morning during the first day of school only. We are continuing to keep as many adults out of the school as possible, this will provide a more safe, healthy, and secure environment and ensure instruction starts on time.

This policy is only for students that do not attend before care. Any child dropped off before 8:50am will be taken to before care. If your child was not previously signed up for before care, you will be charged for the full half hour (at least of care). Please use the sign-up genius to sign up for before or after care. Links for the sign up will be coming soon) Please remember this is the way we make our staff schedule, and it is based on the number of children signed up.



Franklin Academy follows Southfield Public Schools, for our snow days. If they are closed for a snow day we will also be closed. The school will also close if at 6am, the predicted temperature for that school day falls to -25 degrees or below (including wind chill). All other weather or building related closures will be decided on a case-by-case basis. Please note that there will be no refunds of school tuition, due to school closures. When weather conditions are questionable and school is in session, please be available for a text message and or email through Preschool2me or the Director. School closings, delays or early dismissal will be posted on our Preschool2Me app and sent out in a schoolwide email. In addition, you may call (248) 352-8000, the main phone number for Franklin Athletic Club. The front desk staff will be informed of the Academy's decision regarding a snow day.

## Snow Days

## Preschool2me

This is the app that will keep you in touch with pictures and news daily at the school. It truly is interactive and will allow you to have a bird's eye view of your child's day. We do have a number you can text us during the day or for aftercare pick up. Please don't call this number because we cannot answer. 248 963-4317. Please keep this number handy in case you cannot get a hold of us by phone.

## Lunch Options



This year we offer a lunch purchase option with a couple of local places. A calendar sign up is sent home with each child at the end of the month for the following two months, and attached to the weekly email so that you can pre purchase your lunches each month. We are going to offer lunches Monday - Thursday but they will need to be prepaid, and you will have to pre-register by returning your calendar with the cash for the lunches.

Monday and Thursday is Pizza, Tuesday is spaghetti, and Wednesday is chicken nuggets and fries. Fridays all students bring a lunch from home.

## PICK UP

If your child only attends a half day pick up is after lunch at 12pm. You can come to door #1 and ring the bell and we will bring your child to the door. For the afternoon full day pick up we would like all parents picking up children at the end of the school day to park in our bigger lot around the corner of the main entrance at door # 3. This gives our staff time to identify who is picking up and our teachers to walk your child out and speak with you if needed. Pick up time is from 3-3:15. Any child left after 3:15 will be taken to after care. If your child was not previously signed up for aftercare you will be charged for the full half hour (at least of care). Please use the sign-up genius to sign up for before or after care. Please remember this is the way we make our staff schedule, and it is based on the number of children signed up. If your child does stay for aftercare you can ring the doorbell or text us at :248 963-4317

## What your child needs to bring to school

What your child will need to bring the first day: (Please clearly label everything)

- -A backpack to bring things to and from school.
- -At least one extra change of clothes
- -A nut free lunch with a drink or water bottle
- -Refillable Water bottle with your child's name
- -Diapers if needed.
- -Pullups if potty training.
- -Wipes if needed
- -Sleep rollup [Amazon.com: Toddler Nap Mat with Pillow and Blanket, 50" x 21" x 1.5" Super Soft and Cozy, The Great Kids Nap Mats for Preschool Daycare Toddler Sleeping Bag, Whale : Baby](https://www.amazon.com/Toddler-Nap-Mat-with-Pillow-and-Blanket-50-x-21-x-1.5-Super-Soft-and-Cozy-The-Great-Kids-Nap-Mats-for-Preschool-Daycare-Toddler-Sleeping-Bag-Whale-Baby/dp/B078888888), or crib sheet with a blanket in a separate bag that is labeled that will stay here all week.
- -A nut free snack if staying for aftercare.
- -If your child has signed up for after school swimming, please pack their swim things in a separate bag.

Find more at:

[www.franklinacademypreschool.com](http://www.franklinacademypreschool.com)

## Extended Day Hours



I have included the links for before and after care sign ups on the first page of this newsletter.. Please note what approximate time you will be dropping off for early hours and pick up for aftercare so we can properly staff. These requests will need to be made the Friday before - all the details are listed on the sign-up genius description as well.

- If you ever need last-minute care, don't hesitate to reach out to us. If there is space available, then we can accommodate.
- If you plan on using extended care on a regular basis and want to avoid going through the process of the sign up, you can email Chelsea at [csmith@ffrc.net](mailto:csmith@ffrc.net) your regular extended care schedule and I will count your child in moving forward.
- If you plan on using the early hours, you must drop off by 8:40. We use the time from 8:40-8:50 to get the children settled in their classrooms. Prior to 8:40, you may ring the bell at door 1. Otherwise, regular drop off begins at 8:50 at door 2.

\*\*Aftercare

\*\*When you arrive to pick up your child at the end of the day for aftercare you can text the iPad to let us know you are here at: 248 963-4317. Please don't try to call this number, we cannot answer the iPad.

## Enrichment Schedule

**Monday:** Drama for all

**Tuesday:** Gymnastics for 3-5.  
Under 2.5 are bounce and play.

**Wednesday:** Art/Stem for all

**Thursday:** Tennis for Older and  
Gymnastics for 2.5 and under

**Friday:** Creative Movement for all

## Enrichments

## After School Activities

- Afterschool Swim (Mon. or Wed 3:25-3:55).



- Stay and Play (Tue 3:15-4:15).



- Gymnastics (Thur 3:15-4:15).

Please use QR codes to register or click on class,

## Childrens Absences

Unfortunately, we do not prorate for any missed days of school. I have included the parent handbook which everyone has received upon enrollment. Here is the section from the handbook:

After the school year begins, there will be a \$10 charge for every schedule change that requires your tuition amount to be re figured. Requests for permanent schedule changes must be received in writing 14 days in advance. Missing school because of illness, vacations, or any other absence cannot be refunded or prorated in any way. These missed days cannot be made up either.

Please understand that we must staff and schedule our staff based on enrollment numbers and tuition coming in. We take the full school year into account and the number of days in the school year.

